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L15: Entry 1 of 3   File: USPT   Dec 2, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6658642 B1
TITLE: System, method and program product for software development

Brief Summary Text (7):
As a result, with the advent of Internet, to maximize the number of programmers
working on a particular project, collaborative software development projects, such
as open source software development (e.g., Linux), are undertaken or initiated
daily. Web based electronic businesses (e-businesses) have formed offering
contractors a solution to temporary programmer shortages. One such e-business is an
auction site (www.cosource.com) for software development contracts, focusing on the
needs of open source development. However, this approach matches a single
programmer with each task. Money is paid in advance with the package developer
bearing the risk that the project will not complete on schedule.

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L15: Entry 2 of 3   File: USPT   Jul 15, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6594819 B1
TITLE: Method and system for establishing collection of hostable applications

Brief Summary Text (5):
Workgroup or groupware software applications, which provide multiple users with the
ability to collaborate on projects, are extremely powerful and increasingly popular
tools for the performance of work by teams of people. Many such applications are
available for such tasks as editing documents, holding chats and discussions,
networking employment opportunities, managing accounts, providing help, and holding
auctions, to name a few.

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L16: Entry 7 of 20   File: USPT   Jul 15, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6594819 B1
TITLE: Method and system for establishing collection of hostable applications

Brief Summary Text (5):
Workgroup or groupware software applications, which provide multiple users with the
ability to collaborate on projects, are extremely powerful and increasingly popular
tools for the performance of work by teams of people. Many such applications are
available for such tasks as editing documents, holding chats and discussions,
networking employment opportunities, managing accounts, providing help, and holding
auctions, to name a few.

Brief Summary Text (7):
While this user initiated groupware product provides some benefits over existing
groupware, it fails to account for the many types of groupware applications and the
variety of tasks and projects they support. Indeed, many other types of groupware
applications can not take advantage of the benefits of the UIG model without
significant modifications.

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L20: Entry 12 of 80　　　　　　　File: USPT　　　　　Sep 16, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6622116 B2
TITLE: Time and activity tracker

Abstract Text (1):
A method and system for automatically collecting and for analyzing information about time and work performed on a computer includes a hardware abstraction layer for monitoring activity on various user input devices. The system also includes the following elements: a data collector for monitoring certain portions of a user's computer activity and for logging into a log file those certain portions of a user's computer activity; a data analyzer for determining by following user-defined rules showing which portions of those certain portions of a user's computer activity constitutes continuous work activities, and how this work should be categorized by project and task with project; and an external interface for building the rules defining work. The data collector includes a resident module, such as a TSR (terminate-and-stay-resident) module, which extends the file system of the computer so that detailed records are kept of file activities. The data collector also routes information about file and keyboard activity, and tabulates and writes such information to a user's disk periodically. The hardware abstraction layer is a software module which is interposed between actual physical user input devices and the data collector.

Brief Summary Text (6):
Professional knowledge workers, such as computer programmers, bill their time for work done on their computers. The problem of how to monitor their time and activities on their computer, as well as how to automatically calculate the cost of these activities for accounting purposes, needs to be solved. Many invoicing systems rely on the manual inputting of the billable time and a technique is required to determine the accuracy of that billed time. In the custom software programming business, specifications often change so that more time is expended than is originally projected and a customer needs to receive accurate documentation for additional time to be billed.

Brief Summary Text (22):
In accordance with this and other objects of the invention, a technique is provided for measuring the amount of work done on a computer. The invention is a method and system for automatically collecting information about time and work performed on a computer and includes the following elements: data collector means for monitoring certain portions of a user's computer activity; data collector means for logging into a log file those certain portions of a user's computer activity; data analyzer means for determining, by means of user-defined rules, which portions of those certain portions of a user's computer activity constitutes work and how this work should be categorized by project and task with project; and external interface means for building the rules defining work. Work can be organized by customer, department, or any other sets and subsets.

Brief Summary Text (26):
The data analyzer means includes a database and the log file captured by the data collection means. The database contains a description of which files, directories, programs, etc. on the hard disk define a task, where a task is a basic unit of work, where one or more tasks are collected in a group known as a project, and

where a project defines information about the owner of the task(s), and also serves
as an accumulator for all work performed.

Brief Summary Text (30):
The external interface means for building the rules defining work includes means
for manually or automatically building the rules defining work. The external
interface means for building the rules defining work includes means for exporting
work-completed information to other, third-party, programs such as project
managers, spreadsheets, etc. The external interface means for building the rules
defining work includes means preparing printed reports, financial invoices, and
summary information from the categorized work results. The external interface means
includes a database and one or more data files, wherein the external interface
means includes means for writing from the database to export data to other programs
including databases, project managers, word processors, etc., and wherein the
external interface means includes means for writing to the database to import data
from other programs.

Brief Summary Text (31):
A method for automatically collecting information about time and work performed on
a computer includes the steps of. differentiating between multiple types of
external user input devices using a hardware abstraction layer of software between
the external devices and a monitoring system; monitoring certain portions of a
user's computer activity; logging into a log file those certain portions of a
user's computer activity; determining, by means of user-defined rules, which
portions of those certain portions of a user's computer activity constitutes work
and how this work should be categorized by various sets and subsets, such as, for
example, projects and tasks; and building the rules defining work.

Brief Summary Text (36):
A system according to the invention provides information about continuous activity,
as determined by each segment of user activity on a particular project, or task,
exceeding an idle time interval. This is in contrast to manual stop/start clock
systems which start and stop a clock such that work activity is being registered
even if no actual work is being performed. The invention allows a work period to
lapse when there is no activity for a time greater than the idle time limit
interval.

Brief Summary Text (37):
Note that in the present invention the idle time interval can be created at the
time that a report is prepared. Depending on the type of activity being monitored,
the idle time interval can be set to one minute or to fifteen minutes. In this
sense, the system can provide project, or task, measurements after the fact, that
is, when the reports are generated from the log file information. A system
according to the invention allows rules to be defined ex post facto and the log
file data to be analyzed in a manner that was not contemplated when the activities
in the log file were initially recorded.

Detailed Description Text (4):
The system 100 includes a main program that gives a user a database type of
interface for building up project information and task information. The main
program is, for example, a Visual Basic application that provides a database for
keeping the data that the work analyzer needs and that provides a simple interface
for selection of work analysis criteria and for printing of reports. An important
part of the system 100 is a data collector that collects the data and a work
analyzer that analyzes that data that interfaces to the main program.

Detailed Description Text (57):
For the concept of the determined owner, what the Visual Basic application does is
to provide an interface with a database where a user specifies what the names of
his tasks are, like Jones and Smith. Then, what is specified is how you determine

whether an activity belongs to Jones or belongs to Smith. This is implemented using string matching based upon the file names. In other words, every activity inside the Jones directory on a certain disk drive belongs to Jones. Every activity that has the word "Smith" in it, belongs to Smith no matter where it is. A variety of different criteria can be specified, using OR logic. An activity is classified if it matches a criterion that belongs to that particular task. Particular things can be excluded. Temporary files, backup files, or other things not to be tracked can be excluded in this way. For example, tracking of certain kinds of program applications like Microsoft Word and Excel but not Solitaire can be done. Two owners can both get credited for the same activity. If Smith is a graphic design project, you might watch for use of Fractal Design Painter application and credit that use to Smith. Two tasks can share the same activity.

Detailed Description Text (59):
An event analyzer module reads the activity log file over a particular range of days. Another module called a reports module provides an external interface to the system according to the invention. Data can be imported from other programs and project manager. Exports can be made to database project managers, etc. to provide printed reports, invoices and summary information.